(d) These drugs were price decontrolled under DPCO, 1987 as per recommendations of the Kelkar Committee. The recommendations of the Kelkar Committee regarding further inclusion of certain drugs in Category II contained in their supplementary report are under examination.

(e) and (f) As per the provisions of DPCO, 1987, the manufacturers themselves determine the prices of decontrolled drugs. However, Govt. is keeping a watch and has intervened wherever found necessary.

Production and import of Nifedipine range of drugs

669. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of drug companies which are licensed to produce Nifedipine, Norfloxacin, Piroxicam, Propranolol Hcl, Ranitidine Hcl, Salbutamol Sulphate, Turbutaline Sulphate, Theophylline, Vincrestine and Vinbastine Sulphate;

(b) what is the capacity, licensed or registered, of each drug, company-wise;

(c) what was the production of each drug, company-wise, during the last two years, year-wise;

(d) whether any of these drugs is allowed for import under OGL/ restricted basis;

(e) if so, what are the names of such drugs;

(f) whether it is also a fact that indigenous capacities of these drugs are lying idle; and

(g) if so, what steps have been taken to ban the import of these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): (a) and (b) Details of industrial approvals such as names of companies, items of manufacture and capacity, issued from time of time are published regularly by India Investment Centre in their monthly newsletter, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) Of the referred drugs, this Department monitors the production of only Propanolol, Salbutamol and Terbutaline, whose production during the last two years is given in Annexure.

(d) and (e) Import Policy for drugs is determined in consideration of the factors like capacity demand. availability of technology constraints etc.

(f) and (g) Capacity utilisation of a drug by a company depends on the Corporate plans of the company and the supply-demand position of the drug.

Overcharging on combiflame tablets

670. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the producer of Combiflame charged Rs. 12.15 per strip of 10 tablets from the very beginning against the approved price of around Rs. 5.00;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the sales turn over of this medicine is around rupees five crores per annum;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the amount overcharged from public on this medicine is around rupees three crores per annum ; and

(d) if so, how much amount of overcharging has been worked out upto the announcement of DPCO,

1987 and how much has been recovered from the producers upto the 15th July, 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PERTRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): (a) to (d) The required details to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Defective rubber washers in LPG Cylinder

671. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware about the risks caused to the consumers due to defective rubber washers in LPG cylinders ; and

(b) if so, what corrective steps have been taken to minimise such risks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) Yes, Sir. Only a few complaints pertaining to defective rubber washers in LPG cylinders have been received.

(b) All the LPG-filled cyclinders are checked thoroughly for leakages at the bottling plants before despatch to the distributors. LPG distributors are under strict instructions to check every cylinder for leakages before making delivery to the customers. Delivery boys are also required to check the cylinders for leakages at the time of installing them and to replace the rubber washers immediately free of cost, if necessary.

Indigenous production of Penicillin

672. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have cleared some projects for manufacturing Penicillin G;

(b) if so, what is the investment involved in these projects ;

(c) what is the extent to which India will be self-sufficient in Penicillin production ;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up a unit in Karnataka also ; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total project cost proposed by various companies is Rs. 366 crores approximately.

(c) If all the sanctioned projects are implemented then India will become self-sufficient in Penicillin production.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.